

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 11342

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: CSCE, NATO, TGEN
SUBJ: CSCE MEETING OF EXPERTS ON SCIENTIFIC FORUM:
NATO CAUCUS

REF: USNATO 05884

1. ALL NATO DELEGATIONS EXCEPT LUXEMBOURG ATTENDED
THREE HOUR NATO CAUCUS EVENING JUNE L9 TO DISCUSS
DANISH DRAFT PROPOSAL AND GENERAL ORGANIZATIONAL
QUESTIONS FOR CSCE MEETING OF EXPERTS ON SCIENTIFIC
FORUM. FRANCE, WHICH NONCOMMITTAL ABOUT ATTENDING WHEN
CAUCUS DISCUSSED AT JUNE 8 POLAD MEETING, REPRESENTED
BY FULL THREE-MAN DELEGATION. FRG CHAIRMAN DISPLAYED
RELUCTANCE TO TAKE STRONG LEADERSHIP ROLE, AN ATTITUDE
WE ANTICIPATE FRG WILL CONTINUE THROUGHOUT MEETING OF
EXPERTS.

2. MOST SIGNIFICANT ASPECTS OF CAUCUS MEETING WERE
REPORTS OF SOUNDING OF EASTERN BLOC AND NNAS ON DANISH
DRAFT PROPOSAL. USSR LISTENED WITH INTEREST BUT MADE
NO COMMENT, LIKEWISE CZECHOSLOVAKIA. YUGOSLAVIA
SUPPORTED CONTINUITY OF SCIENTIFIC FORUM. POLES
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PAGE 02 BONN 11342 201535Z

BELIEVE THAT, AS FIRST POST-BELGRADE MEETING,
SCIENTIFIC FORUM SHOULD BE CONSTRUCTIVE BUT NOT CON-
FLICT WITH WORK OF OTHER ORGANIZATIONS LIKE UNESCO.
ALTHOUGH NONSUPPORTIVE OF INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF
FORUM, THEY ARE NOT OPPOSED TO PERIODICITY. ROMANIANS
FELT BONN MEETING SHOULD ALSO BE A STEP FORWARD FROM
BELGRADE AND THAT SCIENTIFIC FORUM SHOULD BE CONSTRUC-

TIVE. TIMING OF FORUM SHOULD BE DECIDED AT MADRID; HOWEVER, IF BONN MEETING FAVORABLE TO EARLIER CONVO-CATION, ROMANIA WOULD NOT OPPOSE. STRONGEST BLOC COMMENT CAME FROM GDR WHICH EXPRESSED FEAR THAT WEST MIGHT LAUNCH HUMAN RIGHTS POLEMIC AT PREPARATORY MEETING. EAST GERMANS FAVORED THEME ON "RESPONSIBILITIES OF SCIENCE AND SCIENTISTS FOR PEACE AND SECURITY IN OUR TIME." IN THEIR VIEW, SCIENTIFIC FORUM SHOULD BE FURTHER STEP IN DETENTE PROCESS WITH SCIENTISTS, FOR EXAMPLE, TAKING STAND AGAINST SUCH NEW WEAPONRY AS NEUTRON BOMB. SWEDEN AND FINLAND FAVORED CONTINUITY OF FORUM WITH SWEDEN URGING THAT SMALLER AGENDA OF ONLY 2-3 SUBTHEMES BE ADOPTED. SWEDEN ALSO ANXIOUS TO SEE YOUNGER SCIENTISTS PARTICIPATE IN FORUM.

3. IN DISCUSSION OF PROCEDURAL MATTERS AT BONN MEETING, CAUCUS DECIDED THAT FRG WILL CHAIR MORNING SESSION ON JUNE 20 AND THAT CHAIRMANSHIP WILL BE ROTATED ON A DAILY BASIS EXCEPT FOR CHAIRMAN OF JUNE 20 AFTERNOON WHO WOULD SERVE ONLY FOR HALF DAY. DANES AGREED TO ASK FINNS DURING NORDIC CAUCUS SCHEDULED FOR MORNING OF JUNE 20 TO PRESENT DRAFT AGENDA FOR BONN MEETING.

4. COMMENT: GDR VIEWS REPORTED ABOVE, REMARKS ALONG SAME LINE MADE TO CORIDEN JUNE 19 BY GDR REPRESENTATIVE AND POLISH REMARKS MADE TO DUTCH ALL SUGGEST THAT BLOC CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 BONN 11342 201535Z

IS COMMUNICATING MESSAGE THAT WEST HAS RESPONSIBILITY FOR AVOIDING SENSITIVE POLITICAL ISSUES AT BONN MEETING AND SCIENTIFIC FORUM. EC 9 ALSO DETERMINED THAT BONN MEETING NOT BE POLITICAL BUT THEY CLEARLY ACCEPT POSITION THAT SEVERAL SUBTHEMES SHOULD BE INCLUDED ON AGENDA FOR FORUM WHICH COULD ENCOMPASS DISCUSSION OF ISSUES BLOC CONSIDERS "POLITICAL" SUCH AS FREEDOM OF SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION EXCHANGE, ACCESS QUESTION, ETC.

STOESSEL

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